

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BOGOTA 03696 081511 Z

47

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

INT-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 EB-11 CG-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04

OMB-01 AGR-20 RSR-01 /129 W
----- 005112

R 081339 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7331

INFO USCINCSO

AMNVNSUL CALI

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA BOGOTA 3696

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PBOR, CO, VE

SUBJECT: COLOMBIAN DECLARATION ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH VENEZUELA

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

REF: BOGOTA' S 3129 AND 3517

1. THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS ISSUED A DECLARATION ON MAY 4 CONCERNING THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN COLOMBIA AND VENEZUELA ON DEMARCATION OF THE MARINE BOUNDARIES BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS. AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE DECLARATION FOLLOWS: " THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS STATES THAT, AFTER THE TERMINATION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS CARRIED ON WITH VENEZUELA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DECLARATION OF SOCHAGOTA SIGNED ON AUGUST 19, 1968 BY THE PRESIDENTS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES AND THE MODUS OPERANDI AGREEMENT DATED MARCH 14, 1970, THE MINISTRY, FOLLOWING THE INSTRUCTIONS OF THE PRESIDENT, MADE A FULL STUDY OF THE SITUATION AND CONSULTED WITH THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS. AS A RESULT OF THIS EVALUATION AND WITH A DESIRE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE SPEEDIEST
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POSSIBLE SOLUTION OF THE MATTER OF THE DEMARCATION OF THE MARINE
BOUNDARIES OF COLOMBIA AND VENEZUELA, THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN
RELATIONS

HAS PROPOSED TO THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN RELATIONS OF VENEZUELA
THE SELECTION OF A NEW PROCEDURE, AMONG THE MANY PROCEDURES
CONTAINED IN INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE EXISTING TREATIES BETWEEN
THE TWO COUNTRIES, TO TREAT THE QUESTION."

2. VAZQUEZ IS WELL AWARE THAT VENEZUELA IS UNWILLING TO TAKE
THE QUESTION OF THE MARINE BOUNDARIES TO ANY FORM OF INTERNATIONAL
ARBITRATION. HOWEVER, HE IS ALSO AWARE THAT COLOMBIAN PUBLIC
OPINION TENDS TO LOOK UPON THE CONTINUATION OF BILATERAL TALKS
AS LARGELY USELESS. HE IS THEREFORE PUTTING THE ONUS ON VENEZUELA
FOR REFUSING TO AGREE TO ARBITRATION OR OTHER INDIRECT MEANS
OF SETTLEMENT. PRIVATELY, OFFICIALS IN THE FOREIGN OFFICE
HAVE TOLD US THEY EXPECT DIRECT TALKS TO CONTINUE AT THE LEVEL
OF FOREIGN MINISTERS.
SACCIO

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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TAGS: PBOR, CO, VE, PBOR
To: AMNVNSUL CALI
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